



**Commission on Aging
Senior Center Select Committee Meeting
April 28, 2022**

The **Senior Center Select Committee** convened virtually on Tuesday, April 28, 2022. Members and attendees joined the virtual meeting with video conference and or conference call options (computer or telephone).

Members Present:

Chair Gloria Pitchford-Nicholas
Vice Chair Gene Guskowski
Commissioner John Griffith
Sandra Dotson
Sharron Fitak
Deborah Lewis
Howard Snyder
M. Kent Mayfield
Cathy Wood

Members Excused:

Leon Davis
Patricia Delmenhorst
Debra Jupka
Sally Lindner
Alice Steuck Konkel
Kelsie Lyons
Commissioner Cherie Swenson

Milwaukee County Staff

Andrew Bethke, DHHS
Christel Colorado, DHHS

Daniel Idzikowski, DHHS
Jon Janowski, DHHS
Jill Knight, DHHS
James Mathy, DHHS
Peter Nilles, DAS
Darryl Whyte, DAS

Attendees from the Public:

Sheila Carter, SOA
Diane Chilinski, SOA
Ann Cook
Shannon Downie, SOA
Laz Jackson, SOA
Miriam Kaja, SOA
Joyce
Paula Langley
Naomi Millaer
Commissioner Gloria Miller
Vevette Nwagbaraocha
Sue Reinhars
Michelle Semons
Charlie Snowden, Jr.

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Gloria Pitchford Nicholas called the Senior Center Select Committee to order at 3:00 p.m. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Division on Aging's Program and Policy Coordinator Dan Idzikowski took roll. A quorum was present.

II. WELCOME AND REVIEW OF MEETING PURPOSE

The Chair provided a summary of the purpose of each agenda item to discuss at today's meeting.

1. Evaluate suggestions presented in the "Envisioning report
2. Categorize suggestions as long or short term
3. Review programming and infrastructure needs at each Milwaukee County Senior Center
4. Develop and monitor short and long-term plans for senior centers and senior center programming.
5. Ascertain resources necessary to carry out these plans.
6. Report findings and recommendations to the Advisory Council.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 8, 2022, AND MARCH 22, 2022, SENIOR CENTER SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES. The Committee tabled approval of the meeting minutes until their next Committee meeting.

IV. UPDATE ON MILWAUKEE COUNTY DHHS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL AND ARPA REQUEST

Jon Janowski, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Aging Unit Director notified the Senior Center Select Committee that the Senior Center ARPA request isn't on the County ARPA Taskforce's May meeting schedule. He thinks it's due to the County Board's recently finished elections, and the Board Chair might be in the process of conducting appointments for the County Board's committees. Therefore, the ARPA Taskforce may not discuss the Aging Unit and the Senior Center Select Committee's requests at the May meeting. Director Janowski is going to keep the Committee informed of the review process. Director Janowski also reported that there is no news on the earmark application for the City of Milwaukee Housing Authority's project to replace McGovern's Senior Center with affordable housing and a new Senior Center; (the proposal was submitted to US Rep. Gwen Moore and US Senator Tammy Baldwin).

James Mathy, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Housing Services Administrator informed the Senior Center Select Committee that the Housing Unit submitted a general affordable housing ARPA request for \$15 Million. This ARPA request, approved by the Household Assistance Subcommittee, is expected to be reviewed by the ARPA Taskforce at its next meeting (May or June). If the ARPA Taskforce reviews the request at their May meeting and approves it, it will go before the County Board for review and final approval in June. The focus of this project is to support:

- affordable suburban housing development;
- suburban housing development for people with disabilities; and
- affordable housing development that could include senior center(s).

This funding, if approved, could be used to supplement affordable housing development that would include a senior center on the ground floor. Ideas are being pursued on both the north and south sides of Milwaukee County. This development is still in its early stages, so there are no renderings. Committee members and the public provided comments about this development and discussed the principles from the MKE Idea attributes and recommendations regarding the county-owned Senior Centers and their capital needs.

V. SENIOR CENTER ATTRIBUTES MATRIX APPLICATION

Idzikowski and Vice Chair Guskowski reviewed the list of recommended general modifications for all of the Milwaukee County owned senior centers and asked members of the Senior Center Select committee if they had any additions to this list. Also, they reviewed the attached ARPA Senior Center Request Chart with the Committee and discussed the process for ARPA requests. Idzikowski was asked whether the Aging Unit had submitted a Capitol project request for 2023 consideration, as there doesn't seem to be one on file for the Unit. Idzikowski will follow up with the Aging Unit Director on this issue.

VI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS, MEETING TIMES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: No items or announcements.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

The Senior Center Select Committee will meet again virtually on Tuesday, May 12, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vonda Nyang
Executive Assistant